

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A device to hold a flexible substrate ~~is placed in order to be printed upon, the device being configured so as to create contact force between a supporting surface of the device and the flexible substrate,~~ the device comprising:

(a) a static support structure ~~configured so as to render said flexible substrate as a plurality of adjacent flat regions, said flat regions being sequential along a feed path of said flexible substrate, each of said flat regions being positioned so that a vector following said feed path changes direction between said adjacent flat region in said sequence, said change of direction being a rotation about an axis that is perpendicular to said feed path and parallel to the surface of said flexible substrate, so that an entire surface of said plurality of flat regions, in combination, has a substantially convex profile; and~~

elongated support units, each having a bottom surface supported by said support structure, wherein said units positioned remote from and substantially parallel to each other such that top surfaces of said units delineate a convex profile in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of said units;
and

(b) a tensioning device configured so as to produce tension in said flexible substrate, said tension being along said a feed path of said flexible substrate parallel to said plane.

2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The device of claim 1, further comprising a digital printing device including a plurality of print heads, ~~said support structure being configured so as to provide one said flat region for each of said printing heads.~~
3. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The device of claim 2, wherein said printing device is a digital four color process printer using and said plurality of print heads includes four ~~said print heads and said support structure includes at least four said flat regions.~~
4. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The device of claim 1, wherein said support units are ~~structure includes parallel support bars positioned transversely to said feed path, said support bars at least partially delineating sides of said rectangles.~~
5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The device of claim 3, wherein said print heads are positioned such that ~~flat regions are created~~ when said flexible substrate is placed upon said support structure, ~~said flat regions being these portions of said flexible substrate that are stretched between said support bars~~ units are located below said print heads.
6. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The device of claim 1, wherein said support structure is a substantially continuous solid surface ~~fabricated with a plurality of said flat regions.~~
7. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The device of claim 1, wherein said tensioning device is integral to a feed and take-up device which moves said flexible substrate across said support structure.
8. – 10. (Cancelled)
11. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein said support units are rods.
12. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein said support units are rollers.